

The Messenger

**Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church**
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Paul Mueller, Pastor



Worship Services

Sunday: 10:00 am

Wed. 4:00 pm: at The Gardens

Wed. 6:30 pm: at White Cliffs

Worship at White Cliffs every

Fourth Sunday: 1:30 pm

Communion

First and third Sundays and

Wednesdays of each month.

Bible Classes

Sunday: 9:00 am

Tuesday: 11:00 am

Wednesday: 1:30 pm

Thursday: 1:30 pm

Thursday 4:15 pm (Catechism)

Men's Bible Class

Second Saturday: 9:30 am

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:00 am

~~ NOVEMBER 2019 ~~

Message from the Pastor

WELCOME HOME PRODIGAL DAUGHTER

Lacy was a typical 16-year-old teen. Her small-town parents raised her as a Christian and took her to church, but as Lacy got older, they began to have arguments. Her parent's strictness and arguments over music, belly rings, and skirt lengths got too much for Lacy. So she ran away.

She took a bus to the big city and tried to find her 'freedom' there. But soon her money ran out. Then she met someone. This 20-something seemed to love her and care for her. He introduced her to the adult world of drinking, then sex, then drugs. Soon, her 'daddy' wanted her to show him how much she loved him by becoming one of his 'ladies', a prostitute. When she refused, she was raped, beaten, and thrown out.

In desperation, Lacy eventually turned tricks to support her new drug habit. She slept on the streets. After a couple of months, no one would ever recognize her as the same girl. Dark circles shaded her eyes. She was cold, and she was always scared, even though she put up a tough front. She wanted her mommy. But how could she go home? She had told her parents that she hated them and never wanted to see them again.

But there was no place else to go. With the little money she had, she bought a bus ticket back home—if it even was her home. She called home but only got the answering machine. She left this message: "Dad, Mom, it's me. I was wondering about maybe coming home. I'm catching the bus and I should be there about 10:00 tomorrow night. If you're not there I'll just stay on the bus."

The six-hour ride home gave Lacy plenty of time to think. She recalled all the terrible things she had said. Would her parents even want her back? Also, what if they weren't home and missed the message? She rehearsed her apology in her head: "I'm so sorry, Daddy! I know I was wrong Mom. It's all my fault. Can you forgive me?!"

As the bus pulled into the station, the driver announced that they only had a 20-minute stop. 20 minutes to decide her life! Lacy tried to look nice but the bags around the eyes and the dirt of the street couldn't be hidden. As she entered the terminal she only dared to hope.

Her wildest dreams could not have imagined the forty relatives and friends, all wearing party hats, there to shout 'surprise'. The huge sign on the wall reading 'welcome home Lacy' brought a lump to her throat. Then her father came running out of the group and hugged her with the best hug she had ever received.

"I'm so sorry" she began. But Dad stopped her. "I know" he replied. We've already forgiven you; we're just glad you're home. And, we've got a party waiting for you at home."

The prodigal daughter had returned home.

In Jesus' story of the prodigal (lost) son, the boy's father said this when his repentant son came home, "We had to celebrate because this brother [or sister] was dead and is alive again; she was lost and was found." Lk. 15:32

We may not have done what those two young people did, but "we have all gone astray". We are not worthy of God's love. We cannot return 'home' on our own. Jesus had to save us from going to hell. He took our place. Now we are restored again. Heaven has a 'Welcome home' sign with our names on it because of Jesus! That's what we're celebrating Nov. 3rd at 10:00. If you haven't been in church in a while, this is the Sunday. We will have a full house, all sinners of varying degree, hearing WELCOME HOME. We invite you to be one of us.

FAVORITE HYMN FESTIVAL is celebrated Nov. 3rd. Will 'How Great Thou Art' defend its title? Join us at 10:00.



DONATION NEWS – *There are furniture and household items still available in the Education Building. If you are interested in any of the items, put your name on the blue tape attached to the item and contact Leena Meza to make arrangements for payment and pick up.*

THE AREA BEHIND THE BLUE PARTITION IS RESERVED FOR RECEIVING & SORTING SMALL ITEMS ONLY. *Place small item donations behind blue partition. For large items, contact Leena Meza or Zeke Jarcik so we can accommodate set up and/or storage of these items.*

Something to Think About* **Be Imitators of Jesus in Doing Good*

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. (Galatians 6:9,10)

Jesus didn't give up

Sometimes in the gospel accounts you can detect a tinge of frustration in Jesus' words, even when—no, especially when!—he's speaking with his closest disciples. For instance, when those disciples once attempted unsuccessfully to cast out a demon, our Savior exclaimed, “*You unbelieving and perverse generation, how long shall I stay with you and put up with you?*” (Luke 9:41). On the night Judas betrayed him, Peter denied him, and the rest abandoned him, Jesus questioned his snoring supporters indignantly, “*Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?*” (Matthew 26:40).

Already through the mouth of the prophet Isaiah, our Lord Jesus had vocalized how wearisome the object of his saving work would become. There he lamented, “*I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all*” (Isaiah 49:4). Do you think Jesus has ever been tempted to quit his job as our Savior? Certainly so!

Despite that frustration, however, Jesus has never given up. He's never submitted his letter of resignation. He's never stopped loving us, forgiving us, saving us, and carrying our burdens. Though tempted to do so, Jesus has never become weary in doing good.

What's stopped him? First and foremost, his love for all people is so unflinching and so flawless. But he also knows that there is great, eternal reward in doing good to others, even if that reward isn't immediately obvious. Jesus understood that, as his words through the prophet indicate: “*Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God*” (Isaiah 49:4).

We should not become weary

Like Jesus, we're often tempted to become weary in doing good. Unlike Jesus, we succumb to that temptation all too often and all too easily.

But consider what would happen if Jesus ever quit his job as our Savior and threw in the towel. We'd be finished immediately. Life would consist of nothing but death. Without Jesus working for our good, every blessing would instantly vanish. Thankfully, Jesus hasn't and won't become weary in doing good to us, and that's a promise (Hebrews 13:5).

As his dear children, then, neither should we become weary in doing “*good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*” True, our service to others might not have the same impact as Jesus' work, but our Savior has called us to serve as his hands and feet, his mouth and eyes in the world. We are Jesus' coworkers. Through us, he comforts others (2Corinthians 1:3,4). Through us, he cares for others (2Corinthians 9:10-15). Through us, he saves others through the gospel (1Corinthians 9:22). Through us, he does good to others. What a thought! What a privilege! What a joy!

So be imitators of Jesus: Don't become weary in doing good, “*for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*” The fruits are eternal, both for us and for those we are called to serve.

- HUMOR -

It's the Thought That Counts

Choosing a gift for an elderly mother...

Three sons left home, went out on their own and prospered. Getting back together, they discussed the gifts they were able to give their elderly mother.

The first said, "I built a big house for our mother." The second said, "I sent her a Mercedes with a driver." The third smiled and said, "I've got you both beat."

You remember how mom enjoyed reading the Bible? And you know she can't see very well. So, I sent her a remarkable parrot that recites the entire Bible. It took elders in the Church 12 years to teach him. He's one of a kind. Mama just has to name the chapter and verse, and the



parrot recites it."

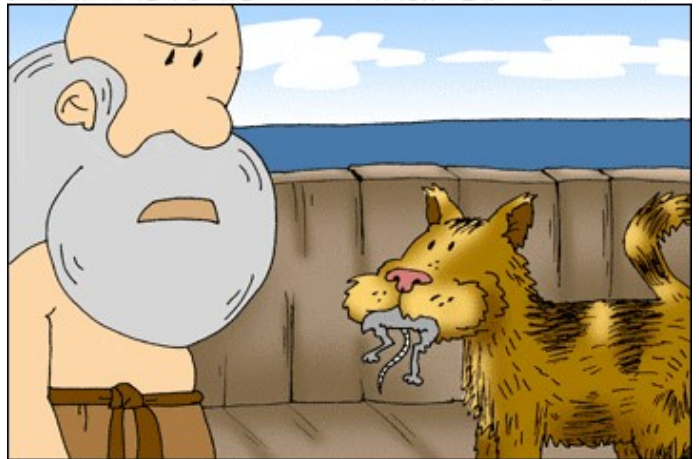
Soon thereafter, mom sent out her letters of thanks:

"David," she wrote one son, "The house you built is so huge. I live in only one room, but I have to clean the whole house."

"John," she wrote to another, "I am too old to travel. I stay most of the time at home, so I rarely use the Mercedes. And the driver is so rude!"

"Dearest Jeffrey," she wrote to her third son, "You have the good sense to know what your mother likes. The chicken was delicious."

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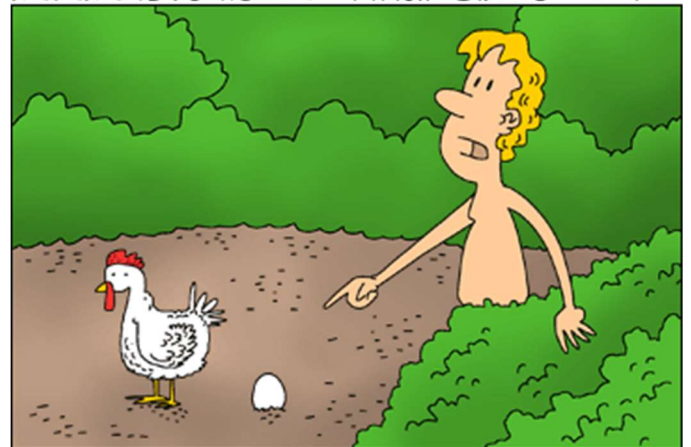
(See Genesis 6-8)

11-09-2004

I HOPE YOU REMEMBER THAT YOU NEED TO LEAVE TWO OF EACH OF THOSE

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(See Genesis 1:1-2:3)

07-06-2015

I MISSED IT ... WHICH ONE CAME FIRST?

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NEW BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS This class is designed to explore the main teachings of the Bible. If you have questions about the Bible, here is the opportunity you have been looking for! Pastor starts with how God gave us the Bible, then the life of Jesus, the Commandments, Prayer, Baptism and Holy Communion. It is taught in a way that makes the Bible easy to understand. Tell Pastor which day of the week works best for you. Right now, we're leaning toward Tuesdays.



**NOVEMBER
FELLOWSHIP
MEALS SCHEDULE**

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MAIN DISH</u>	<u>HOST(S)</u>
3 rd	PORK/TURKEY	Bill & Jeanne
10 th	BREAKFAST	Gene & Shari
17 th	TURKEY	Mark & Rhonda
24 th	CASSEROLES	Christine & Peggy

OCTOBER

<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Fellowship Meal Attendance</u>
2, 6, & 9	6
13 & 16	13
20 & 23	20
27 & 30	27



NOV BIRTHDAYS

2 nd	Mackinze Mounts
3 rd	Cathy Taylor
5 th	Daniel Taylor
9 th	Twilla Coleman
15 th	Gene Bishop
15 th	Jerry Kannenberg
18 th	Richard Grant
25 th	Carl Barnes
26 th	Dave Brock
29 th	Colton Vincent



NOV ANNIVERSARIES

1 st	Dave & Marilyn Jenkins
9 th	Carl & Shelley Barnes
26 th	Gene & Shari Bishop
26 th	Mark & Rhonda Hutchins

We are always in need of the following items for our Sunday morning meals:

- Lg. & small dinner plates (heavyweight paper)
- Dessert plates (heavyweight paper)
- Dessert/Soup bowls (heavyweight paper)
- Forks, knives & spoons (heavyweight/plastic)
- Coffee (regular & decaf)
- Powdered coffee creamer
- Rolls of paper towels

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Providing a dish to share at the Sunday meal or kitchen supplies & food items are greatly appreciated.



**NOV USHERS**

- Tim Mangelsdorf
- Duley Nelson
- Jesse Mangelsdorf
- Don Nomann
- Stanley Tomaszewski
- Kenny Woods



# THE LADIES CIRCLE

**FALL CRAFT FAIR** - Thank you to everyone who donated items for the "Craft Fair". Also, a special thank you to all of you who took the time to hand make many of the items; making them extra special!



*Andrea Ohlemann's Memorial Service (services were held on Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>) - A big thank you to everyone who brought in food and helped in the kitchen. Our efforts showed our Christian love for Andrea, Bob and the Ohlemann family. Thank you for coming together in time of need.*

## **November Bake Sale (Fundraiser)**

- Bake goods will be available from  
November 10<sup>th</sup> thru November 17<sup>th</sup>.



## **FUTURE ACTIVITY-** "SHOEBOX GIVING"



In December, we will be preparing Christmas shoeboxes for the less fortunate in Kingman. A list of needed supplies will be available in the Narthex in a few weeks.

### **NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING:**

Date: Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 am  
Devotion Series: Virtues of a Proverbs 31 Woman (encouraging/enlightening series)  
KJV/Proverbs 31:20 - Service

*All ladies of the congregation are invited.  
We look forward to the Christian fellowship,  
planned activities and the missions we support!!*



# NOVEMBER 2019

| Sun                                                                                                                                                 | Mon                    | Tue                                                                                        | Wed                                                                                                                                                  | Thu                                                             | Fri | Sat                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                     |                        |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                 | 1   | 2                                                                          |
| <b>3</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal<br><br>4:00 pm Area Reformation Service     | 4                      | <b>5</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>11:00 am Bible Class<br><br>6:00 ELDERS MTG                | <b>6</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at the Gardens<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs                             | <b>7</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:15 pm Catechism Class  | 8   | <b>9</b><br>9:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast<br>9:30 am Ladies Circle Meeting |
| <b>10</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal                                            | <b>11 Veterans Day</b> | <b>12</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>11:00 am Bible Class<br><br>6:00 COUNCIL MTG              | <b>13</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at the Gardens<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs                            | <b>14</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:15 pm Catechism Class | 15  | 16                                                                         |
| <b>17</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal                                            | 18                     | <b>19</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>10:00 am Fellowship Committee Mtg<br>11:00 am Bible Class | <b>20</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at the Gardens<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs                            | <b>21</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:15 pm Catechism Class | 22  | 23                                                                         |
| <b>24</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal<br>1:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs | 25                     | <b>26</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>11:00 am Bible Class                                      | <b>27</b><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at the Gardens<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs<br>7:00 pm Worship Service | <b>28 Thanksgiving Day</b><br>                                  | 29  | 30                                                                         |